



# City of Mt. Angel

## Newsletter

March 2023

Volume 15/Issue 3

### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### **City Council Meeting—**

Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Library Community Room.

—See City of Mt. Angel website notice for online access to meeting.

#### **Municipal Court—**

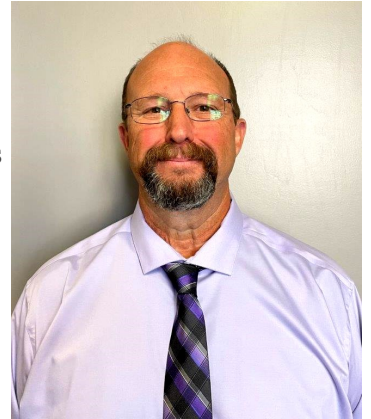
Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:00pm in the Library Community Room.

#### **Daylight Savings Time—**

Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Don't forget to Spring Forward and to set your clocks ahead 1 hour.

### NEW EMPLOYEE PROFILE: ROY HARRELL JR

The City of Mt. Angel is excited to introduce you to our newest Police Officer, Roy Harrell Jr. Roy came to work for the City in December of last year and has been a wonderful addition to the Mt. Angel Police Department. And if he looks familiar, it's because he has worked alongside the Mt. Angel Police Department at the last 26 Oktoberfests!



Roy brings with him a wealth of knowledge and a unique perspective, as he has over 34 years of experience in law enforcement. Before joining our team, he spent 26 years as a Sheriff's Deputy for the County of Yamhill, and eight years with the City of Boardman Police Department.

Roy has been married for over 40 years and has three grown daughters, 11 grandchildren, and two English Springer Spaniel dogs. In his free time he enjoys taking road trips with his wife in their R.V., hunting, and fishing.

Roy has enjoyed meeting the citizens of Mt. Angel outside of the Oktoberfest event and looks forward to his continued relationship with our City. If you see him around town, feel free to introduce yourself and welcome him to the City of Mt. Angel!

### BACKFLOW DEVICE TESTING

The City has a new procedural timeline for submitting backflow test reports. Each year between January 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> your backflow device must be tested and the test results submitted to the City at [backflowreports@mtangel.gov](mailto:backflowreports@mtangel.gov) or in person at City Hall. Only one reminder letter will be mailed in August for any address that has not submitted a backflow test. If we do not receive your backflow test report by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 a \$5 penalty will be assessed the first business day of each month - October, November and December. On the first business day in December, except where it lands on a Friday, a \$50 non-compliance shut-off fee will also be assessed and water will be turned off. Water will not be turned back on until we receive a backflow test report.

If your backflow test fails you must repair, retest and receive a passing test report. The City will mail you a letter asking you to correct the condition within 30 days, however, if we do not receive a passing backflow test within a reasonable amount of time, we will shut-off the water and assess a \$50 shut-off fee. Water will not be restored until we receive a passing backflow test report.

Both the State of Oregon and the City requires back flow devices be installed on irrigation systems. Each year, the device must be tested and the results submitted to the State to ensure that the drinking water in Mt. Angel is safe. Irrigation systems (sprinklers) that are unprotected by a backflow device can cause contaminated water to flow back into the water supply. The yearly testing ensures that the device on the system is still functioning properly. If you need a device installed or a test performed, there is a list of State certified testers available at City Hall or at <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/backflow.php?county=MARION>. You may use a certified backflow tester from any county in Oregon.

Public Works urges everyone to have their tests performed and submitted as soon as possible. If you have questions, please call Public Works Director Allen Dahlberg at 503-845-6260.



City Hall Mt. Angel Oregon

**Contact Us**

Administration	503-845-9291
Court	503-845-9291
Permits/Planning	503-845-9291
Water & Sewer Billing	503-845-9291
Public Works	503-845-6260
Police Office/Records	503-845-9294
Non-Emerg. Police	503-982-1101
Police/Fire/Medical Emergency	911
Library	503-845-6401
Library Website	<a href="http://www.mtangelpubliclibrary.com">www.mtangelpubliclibrary.com</a>
City Website	<a href="http://www.mtangel.gov">www.mtangel.gov</a>



**AUTOMATIC METER READING AND RADIO FREQUENCIES**

The City began the process of switching from a manual water meter reading system to an Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system in 2021. The R900 meters being installed use Radio Frequencies (RF) to transmit data to the City’s billing system for analysis.

**Certified Equipment**

The new meters being installed around town and the associated equipment have been evaluated and tested in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations and certified by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This certification is required by federal law of any RF device.

**Exposure Standards**

The FCC has established rules requiring RF transmitting equipment, such as the ones the City is installing for meter reading, to comply with exposure guidelines. The limits established in the guidelines are designed to protect the public health with a very large margin of safety. The City’s newly installed meters transmit for less than one minute total per day and for seven milliseconds at a time. This is approximately eight times lower than the exposure limit set by the FCC.

**Health & Safety**

Several studies have been conducted on the effects of RF on brain electrical activity, cognitive function, sleep, heart rate and blood pressure. To date, there is no evidence of adverse health effects from exposure to RF at levels below the established limits. The R900 water meters are installed underground and away from the house, further limiting any potential exposure.

**Interference**

The R900 is a one-way battery operated device that uses frequency hopping spread spectrum to avoid interference or collisions with radio waves emanating from other types of equipment. Since the meters transmit for such a short duration (seven milliseconds), there is no risk of interference with other electronic devices.

**Opt-Out**

The City of Mt. Angel does not allow customers to opt-out of the AMR program. For this program to work as efficiently and effectively as possible, it is important that all the old meters are replaced with the R900 meters.

**TRIVIA NIGHT HOSTED BY THE MT ANGEL PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Come test your knowledge by joining us at the Mount Angel Public House for Trivia Night March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00pm. Mount Angel Public House is located just down the street from the Library at 210 E Charles Street. Come play solo, bring a team (of five), or join a team and put that collective brain to work for fun prizes! Please call the Library at 503-845-6401 or email [library@mtangel.gov](mailto:library@mtangel.gov) for more information. Children are welcome to come, but must leave by 9:00pm and the Trivia is for adults only.

**SEWER LATERAL REPAIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

A sewer lateral is the section of the sewer pipe between your home and the main sewer line at the street. Maintenance of this section is the property owner’s responsibility, so it can be a large and unexpected expense for the owner if there’s a leak or other problem. The City recognizes that burden and has allocated a modest budget to help single family homeowners with the repair. For more information and an application packet please email Colby Kemp at [ckemp@mtangel.gov](mailto:ckemp@mtangel.gov) or call him at 503-845-9291.